

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for forming a catalyst layer on a substrate constituting a membrane electrode assembly, whereby a catalyst layer is formed by allowing electrode powder to adhere ~~via the~~ by electrostatic force and extruding force to the substrate ~~that constitutes a membrane electrode assembly,~~ comprising: ~~at least a step in which~~

providing a screen is disposed in a state of non-contact with facing a substrate in a state of non-contact;

applying voltage is applied between the screen and the substrate so as to electrically charge the electrode powder supplied to the screen;

pressing the electrode powder supplied to the screen is pressed by an elastic body to exude the electrode powder through the screen toward the substrate; and
disposing electrode powder is dispersed toward on the substrate so as to adhere thereto ~~via both~~ by the electrostatic force and the extruding force of the elastic body.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method for forming the catalyst layer on the substrate constituting a membrane electrode assembly according to claim 1, comprising: ~~a process of~~

dispersing electrode powder toward the substrate so that it adheres thereto using a feed roller made of an elastic material that serves as the above elastic body comprising a feed roller made of an elastic material; which includes a step of supplying electrode powder to a the feed roller; and a step of allowing the feed roller to which the electrode powder has adhered to roll while being pressed against the screen.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method for forming the catalyst layer on the substrate constituting a membrane electrode assembly according to claim 2, comprising a step of allowing electrode powder to adhere to the feed roller, which includes a step of electrically charging the electrode powder.

Claim 4 (original): The method for forming the catalyst layer on the substrate constituting a membrane electrode assembly according to any one of claims 1-3, wherein the substrate is an electrolyte membrane or a gas diffusion layer.

Claim 5 (currently amended): An apparatus for forming a catalyst layer on a substrate constituting a membrane electrode assembly, in which a catalyst layer is formed by allowing electrode powder to adhere via the electrostatic force and extrusion force to a the substrate that constitutes a membrane electrode assembly, at least comprising:

a screen for providing the electrode powder to the substrate;
a means offor holding a screen in a state of non-contact with the substrate;
a means offor applying a voltage between the screen and the substrate;
a means offor supplying electrode powder to the screen; and

a means of an elastic body for pressing the electrode powder supplied to the screen toward the substrate, in which in order to exude the electrode powder through the screen is dispersed toward the substrate,

wherein so as to the electrode powder is adhered thereto to the substrate by via both the electrostatic force provided by the voltage applying means and the extruding force of an provided by the elastic body.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The apparatus for forming the catalyst layer on the substrate constituting a membrane electrode assembly according to claim 5, further comprising:

a hopper that accommodates electrode powder and a feed roller installed on the outlet side of the hopper, in which the feed roller is allowed to roll in contact with the screen by pressure, and wherein the feed roller constitutes a means of supplying electrode powder to the screen and a means of pressing electrode powder supplied on the screen toward the substrate, which is an electrolyte membrane or a gas diffusion layer.

Claim 7 (original): The apparatus for forming the catalyst layer on the substrate constituting a membrane electrode assembly according to claim 6, comprising a means by which electrode powder accommodated in the hopper is electrically charged.

Claim 8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (new): The method for forming the catalysts layer on the substrate constituting a membrane electrode assembly according to claim 5, wherein the screen comprises a mesh.

Claim 10 (new): The apparatus for forming the catalysts layer on the substrate constituting a membrane electrode assembly according to claim 5, wherein the screen comprises a mesh.